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Governor Doyle Names Appointments to the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Waste Materials Recovery and Disposal

Governor Jim Doyle today announced appointments to his Blue Ribbon Task Force on Waste Materials Recovery and Disposal. The Task Force is charged with developing a comprehensive strategy for managing the broad spectrum of Wisconsin's waste materials.

"I'm pleased to announce my appointments to the Task Force on Waste Materials Recovery and Disposal," Governor Doyle said. "I have charged the Task Force with developing a comprehensive strategy for managing the broad spectrum of Wisconsin's waste materials, from the generation of waste to the recovery, reuse, or disposal of waste materials, and I look forward to receiving their report."

Governor Doyle named Milwaukee attorney Arthur "Tony" Vogel, a partner at Quarles and Brady, LLP to chair the Task Force. Also named to the Task Force are Richard Bishop, Madison, professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Wisconsin; Loreen Ferguson, Neenah, recycle mill manager for SCA Tissue; Michael Michels, Kiel, division vice-president of Shaw EMCON/OWT; Paul Jenks, Milwaukee, president and CEO of Onyx Waste Services; George Dreckmann, Madison, recycling coordinator for the City of Madison; and Jennifer Kunde, Milwaukee, director of WasteCap Wisconsin.

Other appointees include Lynn Morgan, Milwaukee, waste management consultant at Broydrick & Associates; Brian Jongetjes, Delavan, president of Johns Disposal Service; Jeffrey Fielkow, Bayside, director of operations for the Upper Midwest at Recycle America; Charles Larscheid, Allouez, director of the Brown County Port and Solid Waste Department; Meleesa Johnson, Stevens Point, administrator of the Portage County Solid Waste Department; Brian Borofka, Mequon, principal consultant for Wisconsin Energy Corporation; John Reindl, Madison, recycling manager for Dane County Public Works Department; Keith Reopelle, Oregon, program director for Clean Wisconsin; Franklyn Ericson, Brookfield, manager of environmental operations and central services at SC Johnson Company; Sonya Newenhouse, Madison, president of Madison Environmental Group; and Gary Zajicek, Prairie du Sac, vice president for construction at Veridian Homes.

"This diverse group of people will help Wisconsin maintain its proud tradition as a national leader in the development of solid waste management standards, and waste recovery and recycling," Governor Doyle said.

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Among the topics the Task Force will investigate over the next 16 months are:

- The economics of landfilling solid wastes, including the full environmental costs and benefits, and how these are reflected in prices and fees;
- Ways to maximize the productive uses of waste materials;
- Ways that Wisconsin can minimize the generation of waste materials, including incentives for waste materials reduction and reuse, and strategies for managing waste materials in a way that avoids burdening future generations; and
- The roles Wisconsin municipalities, businesses, and residents must take in the use, management, and disposal of waste materials.

The Task Force will hold its first meeting on August 31, 2005 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the United Way Building at 2059 Atwood Avenue in Madison and will deliver its final report to Governor Doyle by December 31, 2006. The report is expected to recommend improvements to Wisconsin's waste management and recycling policies to support continued economic growth and to enable the state to adapt to emerging challenges and demands of its citizens and industries.